

**TITLE PAGE**

**SOUTH CAROLINA LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES TARIFF**

**OF**

**GLOBAL CONNECTIONS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, INC.**

This tariff, filed with the  
South Carolina Public Service Commission,  
Contains the rates, terms, and conditions applicable to Local Exchange  
Services within the State of South Carolina offered by Global Connections  
of South Carolina Inc.

APPROVED FOR FILING  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

JUL 19 2000

*Mary E. Walsh*  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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JUL 10 2000  
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC  
SERVICE COMMISSION

Issued: 3/17/2000

Effective:

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3957 Pleasantdale Road  
Atlanta, GA 30340

## Check Sheet

Sheets 1 through 23, inclusive of this tariff are effective as the date shown at the bottom of the respective sheet(s). Original and revised sheets as named below comprise all changes from the original tariff and are currently in effect as of the date on the bottom of this sheet.

<u>Sheet</u>	<u>Revision Level</u>
1	Original
2	Original
3	Original
4	Original
5	Original
6	Original
7	Original
8	Original
9	Original
10	Original
11	Original
12	Original
13	Original
14	Original
15	Original
16	Original
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**CONCURRING CARRIERS**

None

**CONNECTING CARRIERS**

None

**OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS**

None

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*Larry E. Walsh*  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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3957 Pleasantdale Road  
Atlanta, GA 30340

## SYMBOLS

The following are the only symbols used for the purposes indicated below:

- D – Delete or discontinue.
- I – Change resulting in an increase to a customer's bill.
- M - Moved from another tariff locations.
- N - New
- R - Change resulting in a reduction to a customer's bill
- T - Change in text or regulation.

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## APPLICATION OF TARIFF

This tariff contains the regulations and rates applicable to the furnishing of intrastate common carrier communication service by Global Connections of South Carolina Inc. within the State of South Carolina.

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## TARIFF FORMAT

- A. Sheet Numbering - Sheet numbers appear in the upper right corner of the page. Sheets are numbered sequentially. However, new sheets are occasionally added to the tariff. When a new sheet is added between sheets already in effect, a decimal is added. For example, a new sheet added between sheets 14 and 15 would be 14.1.
- B. Sheet Revision Numbers – Revision numbers also appear in the upper right corner of each page. These numbers are used to determine, the most current sheet version on file with the MPSC. For example, the 4<sup>th</sup> revised Sheet 14 cancels the 3<sup>rd</sup> revised sheet 14. Because of various suspension periods, deferrals, etc. the sheet number on file with the Commission is not always the tariff page in effect. Consult the Check Sheet for the sheet currently in effect.
- C. Paragraph Numbering Sequence – There are nine levels of paragraph coding. Each level of coding is subservient to the next higher level:
- 2.
  - 2.1
  - 2.1.1
  - 2.1.1.A.
  - 2.1.1.A.1.
  - 2.1.1.A.1.(a)
  - 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I
  - 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i).
  - 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i).(1).
- D. Check Sheets – When a tariff filing is made with the MPSC, an updated Check Sheet accompanies the tariff filing. The Check Sheet lists the sheets contained in the tariff, with a cross-reference to the current revision number. When new pages are added, the Check Sheet is changed to reflect the revision. All revisions made in a given filing are designated by an asterisk (\*). There will be no other symbols used on this page if these are the only changes made to it (i.e., the format, etc. remain the same, just revised revision levels on some pages.) The tariff user should refer to the latest Check Sheet to find out if a particular sheet is the most current on file with the MPSC.

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*Harry E. Walsh*  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## SECTION 1 – TECHNICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

**Access Line** – An arrangement which connects the customer's location to a Global Connections switching center or point of presence.

**Authorized User** – A person, firm, corporation, or any other entity authorized by the Customer to communicate utilizing the Carrier's service.

**Carrier or Company** – Whenever used in this tariff, "Carrier," "Company," or "Global Connections" refers to Global Connections Inc. unless otherwise specified or clearly indicated by the context.

**Commission** – The South Carolina Public Service Commission.

**Customer** – The person, firm, corporation, or other entity which orders, cancels, amends, or uses service and is responsible for payment of charges and compliance with the Company's tariff.

**GCSC** – Used through this tariff to mean Global Connections of South Carolina Inc. unless clearly indicated otherwise by the text.

**LEC** – Local Exchange Company

**Local Exchange Services** – Telecommunications services furnished for use by end-users in placing and receiving local telephone calls within local calling areas.

**Resold Local Exchange Service** – A service composed of the resale of exchange access lines and local calling provided by other authorized Local Exchange Carriers.

**SCPSC** – South Carolina Public Service Commission.

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## SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS

### 2.1 Undertaking of GCSC

GCSC services offered pursuant to this Tariff are furnished for Local Exchange Service among specified points with a Local Calling Area.

The Company's services are provided on a monthly basis unless otherwise indicated, and are available twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week.

### 2.2 Limitations

2.2.1 Service is offered subject to the availability of the necessary facilities and equipment, and subject to the provisions of this tariff.

2.2.2 GCSC reserves the right to discontinue or limit service when necessitated by conditions beyond its control, or when the Customer is using service in violation of provisions of this tariff, or in violation of the law.

2.2.3 The Company does not undertake to transmit messages, but offers the use of its facilities when available, and will not be liable for errors in transmission or for failure to establish Connections.

2.2.4 All facilities provided under this tariff are directly controlled by GCSC, and the Customer may not transfer or assign the use of service or facilities without the express written consent of the Company. Such transfer or assignment shall only apply where there is no interruption of the use or location of the service or facilities.

2.2.5 Prior written permission from the Company is required before any assignment or transfer. All regulations and conditions contained in this tariff shall apply to all such permitted assignees or transferees, as well as all conditions of service.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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3957 Pleasantdale Road  
Atlanta, GA 30340

## SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS, CONT.

### 2.3 Use

Services provided under this tariff may be used for any lawful purpose for which the service is technically suited.

### 2.4 Liabilities of the Company

2.4.1 GCSC liability for damages arising out of mistakes, interruptions, omissions, delays, errors, or defects in transmission which occur in the course of furnishing service or facilities, in no event shall exceed an amount equivalent to the proportionate charge to the customer for the period during which the faults in transmission occur.

2.4.2 The Company shall not be liable for claim or loss, expense or damage (including indirect, special or consequential damage), for any interruption, delay, error, omission, or defect in any service, facility, or transmission provided under this tariff, if caused by any person or entity other than the Company, by any malfunction of any service or facility provided by any other carrier, by an act of God, fire, war, civil disturbance, or act of government, or by any other cause beyond the Company's direct control.

2.4.3 The Company shall not be liable for, and shall be fully indemnified and held harmless by Customer against any claim or loss, expense, or damage (including indirect, special or consequential damage) for defamation, libel, slander, invasion, infringement of copy-right or patent, unauthorized use of trademark, trade name, or service mark, unfair competition, interference with or misappropriation or violation of any contract, proprietary or creative right, or any other injury to any person, property or entity arising out of the material, data, information, or other content revealed to, transmitted, or used

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3957 Pleasantdale Road  
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## SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS, CONT.

### 2.4 Liabilities of Company, cont.

by the Company under this tariff; or for any act or omission of the Customer; or for any personal injury or death of any person caused directly or indirectly by the installation, maintenance, location, condition, operation, failure, presence, use or removal of equipment or wiring provided by the Company, if not directly caused by negligence of the Company.

2.4.4 No agent or employee of any other carrier shall be deemed to be an agent or employee of the Company.

2.4.5 The Company shall not be liable for any defacement of or damages to the premises of a Customer resulting from the furnishing of service, which is not the direct result of the Company's negligence.

### 2.5 Deposits

The Company does not require a deposit from the Customer.

### 2.6 Payment for Service

2.6.1 The customer is responsible for all charges for services and equipment furnished to the Customer or to an authorized user of the Customer by GCSC. All charges due by the Customer are payable to GCSC or to GCSC's authorized billing agent. Terms of payment shall be according to the rules and regulations of the billing agent and subject to the rules of regulatory agencies, including the commission.

2.6.2 Customer must prepay each month for all services rendered. The customer must prepay the applicable installation charge and the first months local exchange service charge before service begins. In each subsequent month the customer will be sent invoice by the US postal service no later than the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. The invoice will be due by the 5<sup>th</sup> day of the following month. If payment is not received by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month, a suspension notice will be sent and service will be terminated by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month.

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## SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS, CONT.

### 2.6 Payment of Service, cont.

- 2.6.3 If service is suspended and the customer restores service, the customer is required to pay a \$20.00 restoration fee and any remaining balance.
- 2.6.4 If service is disconnected and the customer reinstates service, the customer is required to pay a \$30.00 reconnections fee and any remaining balance.

### 2.7 Taxes

All state and local taxes (including but not limited to franchise fees, excise tax, sales tax, municipal utilities tax and FCC charges) are listed as separate line items and are not included in the quoted rates.

### 2.8 Terminal Equipment

The Company's facilities and service may be used with or terminated in Customer-provided terminal equipment or Customer-provided communications systems, such as a PBX, key systems or Pay telephone. Such terminal equipment shall be furnished and maintained at the expense of the Customer, except as otherwise provided. The customer is responsible for all costs at his or her premises, including personnel, wiring, electrical power, and the like incurred in the use of the Company's service. When such terminal equipment is used, the equipment shall comply with the generally accepted minimum protective criteria standards of the telecommunications industry as endorsed by the Federal Communications Commission.

### 2.9 Installation and Termination

Service is installed upon mutual agreement between the Customer and the Company. The agreement will determine terms and conditions of installation, termination of service, and conditions of installation, any applicable sales commission structure, and sales commission payment schedule. The service agreement does not alter rates specified in this tariff.

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*Sam E. Walsh*  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS, CONT.

### 2.10 Other Rules

2.10.1 Company reserves the right to refuse to process Credit Card or Calling Card billed calls when authorization for use of the card cannot be validated.

2.10.2 The Company reserves the right to discontinue service, limit service, or to impose requirements on Subscribers as required to meet changing regulatory rules and standards of the South Carolina Public Service Commission.

### 2.11 Cancellation by the Customer

When a customer desires to have his service terminated, he must notify Global Connections, either orally or in writing.

### 2.12 InterConnections

Service furnished by GCSC may be connected with the services or facilities of other carriers or enhanced service providers. The customer is responsible for all charges billed by these entities for use in Connections with GCSC's service. Any special interface equipment or facilities necessary to achieve compatibility between these entities is the responsibility of the customer. Neither the Company nor any interconnections carrier participation in a service shall be liable for any act or omission of any other company or companies furnishing a portion of such service.

### 2.13 Refusal or Discontinuance by Company

GCSC may refuse or discontinue service under the following conditions provided that, unless otherwise stated, the Customer shall be given 15 days written notice to comply with any rule or remedy any deficiency:

- (a) For non-compliance with or violation of any State, municipal, or Federal law, ordinance or regulation pertaining to telephone service.

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**SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS, CONT.**

- (b) For use of telephone service for any other property or purpose than that described in the application.
- (c) For neglect or refusal to provide reasonable access to GCSC or its agents for the purpose of inspection and maintenance of equipment owned by GCSC and its agents.
- (d) For noncompliance with or violation of Commission regulation or GCSC's rules and regulations on file with the Commission, provided five days' written notice is given before termination.
- (e) For nonpayment of bills, provided that suspension or termination of service shall not be made without fifteen days written notice to the customer.
- (f) Without notice in the event of customer or authorized user use of equipment in such a manner as to adversely affect GCSC's equipment or service to others.
- (g) Without notice in the event of tampering with the equipment or services owned by GCSC or its agents.
- (h) Without notice in the event of unauthorized or fraudulent use of service. Whenever service is discontinued for fraudulent use of service, GCSC may before restoring service, require the customer to make, at his or her own expense, all changes in facilities or equipment necessary to eliminate illegal use and to pay an amount reasonably estimated as the loss in revenues resulting from such fraudulent use.
- (i) Without notice by reason of any order or decision of a court or other government authority having jurisdiction which prohibits Carrier from furnishing such services.
- (j) For extended periods of inactivity.

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*Lang E. Walsh*  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS, CONT.

### 2.14 Interruption of Service, cont.

Credit allowances for interruptions of services which are due to the Carrier's testing or adjusting, to the negligence of the Customer, or to the failure of channels, equipment or communications systems provided by the Customer, are subject to the general liability provisions set forth in Section 2.4 herein. It shall be the obligation of the Customer to notify Carrier immediately of any interruption in service for which a credit allowance is desired by customer. Before giving such notice, Customer shall ascertain that the trouble is not within his or her control, or is not in wiring or equipment, if any, furnished by Customer and connected to Carrier's terminal. Interruptions caused by Customer-provided or Carrier-provided automatic dialing equipment are not deemed an interruption of service as defined herein since the Customer has the option of the long distance network via local exchange company access.

### 2.15 Restoration of Service

The use and restoration of service shall be in accordance with the rules and regulations of the South Carolina Public Service Commission.

### 2.16 Tests, Pilots, Promotional Campaigns and Contests

The Company may conduct special tests or pilot programs and promotions at its discretion to demonstrate the ease of use, quality of service and to promote the sale of its services. The Company may also waive a portion or all processing fees or installation fees for winners of contests and other occasional promotional events sponsored or endorsed by the company, provided the promotions are approved by the Commission. From time to time, the Company may waive all processing fees for a Customer.

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## **SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS, CONT.**

### **2.18 Inspection, Testing, and Adjustment**

Upon reasonable notice, the facilities provided by the Carrier shall be made available to the Carrier for tests and adjustments as may be deemed necessary by the Carrier for maintenance. No interruption allowance will be granted for the time during which such tests and adjustments are made.

### **2.19 Cost of Collection and Repair**

The Customer is responsible for any and all costs incurred in the collection of monies due the Carrier including legal and accounting expenses. Customer is also responsible for recovery costs of Carrier-provided equipment and any expenses required for repair or replacement of damaged equipment.

### **2.20 Late Fee**

A late fee of 1.5% monthly will be charged on any past due balances beginning 30 days from the mailing date of the bill.

### **2.21 Return Check Charges**

The Company's return check charge is consistent with applicable state law.

### **2.22 ReConnections Charge**

A reconnections fee of \$30.00 per occurrence, per line is charged when service is re-established for customers who have been disconnected for non-payment.

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## SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS, CONT.

### 2.23 Access to Telephone Relay Services

Where required by the Commission, the Company will participate in telephone relay services for handicapped and/or hearing impaired end users, and will comply with all regulations and requirements. The Company shall impose any monthly surcharge or any other related charge upon its local exchange telecommunications subscribers as may be required by state law.

### 2.24 Access to Carrier of Choice

End users of the Company's local service shall have the right to select the interexchange telecommunications service provider (IC) of their choice. The IC should request confirmation/verifications of choice from its customers no later than the date of submission of its first bill to the customer. Ics should maintain signed letters of agency or confirmations of choice on file for use in dispute resolution.

### 2.25 Directory listings

2.25.1 The Company does not publish a directory of subscriber listings. The Company, however, does arrange for the customer's main billing number to be placed in the directory or directories of the dominant local exchange carrier.

2.25.2 The rates and regulations specified herein for directory listings apply only to the alphabetical section of the directory. Listings are intended solely for the purpose of identifying subscriber's telephone number and as an aid to use of telephone service.

2.25.3 In accepting listings as requested by subscribers or prospective subscribers, the Company will not be a party to controversies between subscribers as a result of the publication of such listings in the directories.

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**SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS, CONT.**

**2.26 911 Service**

The Company provides 911 service for emergency calling at no charge.  
This service is provided via the underlying carrier's network.

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## SECTION 3 – DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE

### 3.1 Product Descriptions

#### 3.1.1 Product Description Generally

GCSC will resell all of the underlying carrier's available features and services for residential customers that are eligible for resale limitation.

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## SECTION 4 – RATES

### 4.1 Global Connections Rates

#### 4.1.1 Local Exchange Service

GCSC offers local exchange service on a pre-paid, flat rate only.

#### 4.1.2 Installation Charges

Installation (one time fee)	\$ 30.00
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#### 4.1.3 Service Rates

Basic service	\$ 45.00
Restoration Fee	\$ 20.00

#### 4.1.4 Optional Services

Caller ID Deluxe	\$ 15.00
Call Waiting	\$ 5.00
Call Return	\$ 5.00
Call Forwarding	\$ 5.00
3 Way Calling	\$ 5.00
Call Block	\$ 5.00
Ring Master	\$ 10.00
Repeat Dialing	\$ 5.00
Call Selector	\$ 5.00
Unpublished Number	\$ 5.00

Preferred Choice	\$ 63.50
Basic Service, Memory Call, Call Waiting	

Premiere Choice	\$68.50
Basic Service	
Call Waiting, Caller ID Deluxe	
Call Return, Call Forwarding	
3 Way Calling, Call Block,	
Repeat Dial, Call Selector	

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## SECTION 5 – SPECIAL SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS

### 5.1 Individual Case Basis Arrangements

Arrangements will be developed on a case-by-case basis in response to a bona fide special request from a Customer or prospective Customer to develop a competitive bid for service not generally available under this tariff. Individual case basis (ICB) rates will be offered to the Customer in writing and on a non-discriminatory basis. All such rates will be submitted to the Commission for approval.

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## SECTION 6 – SERVICE AREA

### 6.1 Service Area

GCSC will serve all areas of South Carolina which are serviced by Bellsouth and Alltel.

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